



CHTH 323/423

Theology and Human Well-being

Distance/Campus Course Description

Brief Introduction to the Paper

What is it to be human? Does human life have any meaning or purpose? What constitutes a life well-lived? People have been pondering such questions for as long as humanity has existed. This paper examines what the biblical and Christian tradition has had to say about the nature and purpose of human life, and considers what implications Christian thinking about humanity might have in the social and political spheres.

Assessment

This paper is assessed through three essays worth 30%, 30% and 40% respectively.

Teaching schedule

The **campus class** will be taught through 1 x 2hr class each week.

The **distance class** will be taught through 5 video-conferences, plus a teaching day. The video-conferences are 1 hr 30 mins. The teaching day is held in Wellington, but students unable to attend will be able to access a summary of the day's content.

Timetable details are available at <https://www.otago.ac.nz/theology/study/> (See the hyperlinks under "Timetables", on the right hand side)

Learning Outcomes

On completion of the paper at **300 level**, students should be able to:

- describe the distinctive elements of a variety of theological and philosophical understandings of humanity
- critically engage with a range of ideas about the nature of persons.
- work constructively in a team project.

- competently evaluate the ethical implications of Christian understandings of the human person.
- engage competently and critically with primary sources.
- confidently present ideas and arguments in oral and written form.

On completion of the paper at **400 level** students should be able to:

- describe the distinctive elements of a variety of theological and philosophical understandings of humanity
- critically evaluate the foundational assumptions underlying those ideas
- critically engage with a range of ideas about the nature of persons.
- work constructively in a team project.
- competently develop and evaluate the ethical implications of Christian understandings of the human person.
- engage competently and critically with primary sources.
- confidently present and defend ideas and arguments in both written and oral form.
- competently investigate the implications of theological understandings of the person for particular social contexts or work environments.

For more information

Please direct any administrative enquiries to the Theology Administrator:

theology@otago.ac.nz Phone: 03 479 863